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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

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APPLICATION PAPERS

OF

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Jason Charles PELLY

FOR

EMBEDDING DATA IN AN INFORMATION SIGNAL

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ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

A method of controlling copying of an information signal, comprises the steps of:

20 prior to recordal and/or transmission, applying to the information signal a substantially imperceptible modification representing copy control data including a password securely encoded according to a predetermined algorithm;

upon reproduction for copying by a user, deriving (S1, S3) the copy control data from the modified information signal;

25 comparing (S8, S9, S11, S13, S15) the derived securely encoded password with a reference password securely encoded according to a predetermined algorithm; and

enabling (S5) copying of the information signal if the securely encoded password derived from the information signal and the securely encoded reference password have a predetermined relationship, otherwise disabling copying (S7).

30 The reference password is sent to the user via a channel which is separate from a channel used to send the information signal to the user.